

August

Magic Lantern Society
of the United States and Canada



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

In This Issue

Contents

Magic Lantern Calendar – August 2022	2
Magic Lantern Convention News.....	4
Biunials Spotted At Auction Ended July 22.....	5
Another Example of the Lantern Slide Use in 1941.....	6
Lantern and Slide Use For Health Information.....	7
Asahel Curtis images Document North- west History	8
Four Sale Three Porcelain Figurines	11
Welcome New Member.....	12

Click slide to see additional Asahel Curtis slides

**Convention
Reminder
page 4**

**Lantern Slide Use
page 6**

**More Asahel Curtis
page 8**



The Magic Lantern Calendar – August 2022

Events

September 9-10, 2022, *Magic Lantern Show*, 19 th century magic lantern show in a contemporary interpretation, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Fed Square, Melbourne, Australia.

October 18-20 2022, *Forty Years of the Magic Lantern Society – Looking Back and Looking Forward!* The 19 th convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, Glidden House, Cleveland OH. Registration is now open – [contact secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org](mailto:secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org).

October 22, 2022, *Magic Lantern Society (UK) Autumn meeting* 2022, London (members only).

through October 2023, *Gary Fabian Miller: The Light Gatherers*, lecture series at the Bodleian Libraries, will include influences of Magic Lantern projectionists. Information at <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/garry-fabian-miller-the-light-gatherers>

December 17, 2022, *Magic Lantern Society (UK) Special Online Event*, via Zoom, a special pre-Christmas online extravaganza. Information on members page at <http://www.magiclantern.org.uk/events/>

Exhibits

August 10 – September 27, 2022, *Persistence of Vision: Animation Toys and Optical Devices from the Laura Hayes and John Howard Wileman collection of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics*, Selections from the largest and most varied collection of its kind in the Southeast. Gatewood Gallery, Maud Gatewood Studio Arts Building, University of North Carolina, Greensboro 527 Highland Ave, Greensboro, NC 27412

Through September 30, 2022, *From Magic Lantern to Youtube (Renewed)*, Museum Collectie Brands cultuurhistorisch en streekmuseum, Herenstreek 11, 7885 AT Nieuw-Dordrecht, Netherlands.

Through December 2026, *The Story of the Moving Image*, includes shadow puppets, Victorian-era magic lanterns, original cameras and more, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Fed Square, Melbourne, Australia <https://www.acmi.net.au/whats-on/story-of-the-moving-image-exhibition/>.

Ongoing, *The Path to Cinema: Highlights from the Richard Balzer Collection*, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles CA USA. 9,000 magic lantern objects collected by former MLS president Richard Balzer. <https://www.academymuseum.org/en/exhibitions/path-to-cinema>

Ongoing, *From Shadows to Film...and all the magic in between!* Kent Museum of the Moving Image, Stanhope Road, Deal, Kent CT14 6AD UK <https://www.kentnmi.org/>

Ongoing, *Peter Bonnet magic lantern collection*, Museum Stedhus Sleat, heerenwal 48, 8556 XS Sloten, the Netherlands

Ongoing, *Packaged Black*, “Rotating Lantern”, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA.

continued next page

The Magic Lantern Calendar – August 2022 continued

Online

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Thursday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> *Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.*

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com

Life Through the Lens, online exhibit by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, <https://artsandculture.google.com/story/life-through-the-lens/eAJSnVyn4BS2Jw>

Starry nights: astronomy in the popular imagination, online exhibit through the Science Museum Group collection explores the ways astronomical discoveries and spectacles have thrilled and inspired us. <https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/starry-nights-astronomy-in-the-popular-imagination/jgLi46ysvZNWJw>

In focus: the development of photography, film, and television, online exhibit from the Deutsches Museum from the magic lantern to cell-phone photos. <https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/in-focus-the-development-of-photography-film-and-television/LQKiqVxr8yRwJA>

Photo-Drama of Creation Museum, 3D Virtual Museum & Theater, live performances for groups through an innovative videoconferencing system, <https://pdocmuseum.org>

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.



Join us at the Glidden House
in Cleveland, Ohio,
from October 18-20, 2022 for the 2022
Convention of the Magic Lantern Society
of the United States and Canada:

Roll-over this area to see slide action!

Forty Years: looking Back and Looking Forward.

The program will begin on the afternoon Tuesday the 18th, and conclude on the evening of Thursday the 20th with an Extravaganza Performance open to the public at the Cinematique in Cleveland.

Registration forms were distributed July 12, but if you need another contact Ron at rleasterday@comcast.net or 360-516-8973. Early registration ends September 17, 2022. hotel reservations at the Glidden House are now open – please use <https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=9703&nights=1&checkin=10/18/2022&group=2210MAGICL&lang=en-us> to get the special Magic Lantern Society rate.



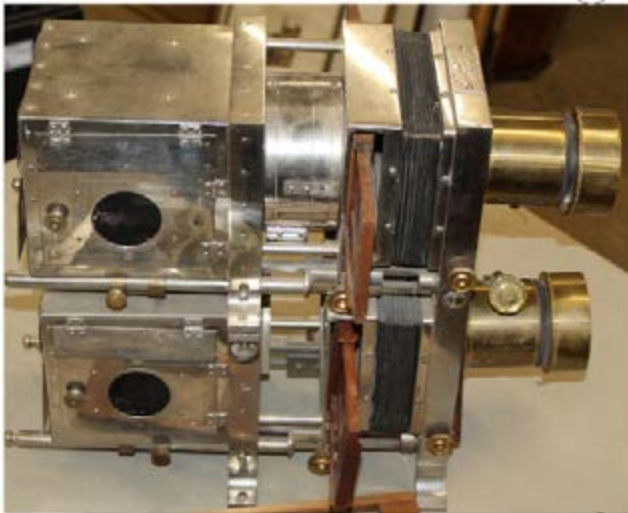
Biunials Spotted At Auction Ended July 22

From Joel Schlemowitz
joel@joelschlemowitz.com

There are a couple of biunials coming up in an auction I got an alert for from Live Auctioneers....

https://www.liveauctioneers.com/item/132535034_unmarked-ca-1920-biunial-magic-lantern-projector?from=alert&utm_source=SavedAlert&utm_campaign=SearchAlert_20200423_A&utm_medium=email&utm_content=item

https://www.liveauctioneers.com/item/132535030_at-thompson-boston-biunial-magic-lantern?from=alert&utm_source=SavedAlert&utm_campaign=SearchAlert_20200423_A&utm_medium=email&utm_content=item



AT Thompson Boston Biunial Magic
Magic Lantern

Estimate \$500-\$1,000

Jul 22, 2022

Sold for \$550

I won't be bidding on either one (although that Thompson Biunial is a very nice looking projector and so it seems tempting) but thought someone might be interested. Probably best to let everyone else know if one of us is interested -- so that we all don't go bidding against each other.

Best,
Joel



Unmarked ca 1920 Biunial Magic
Lantern Projector

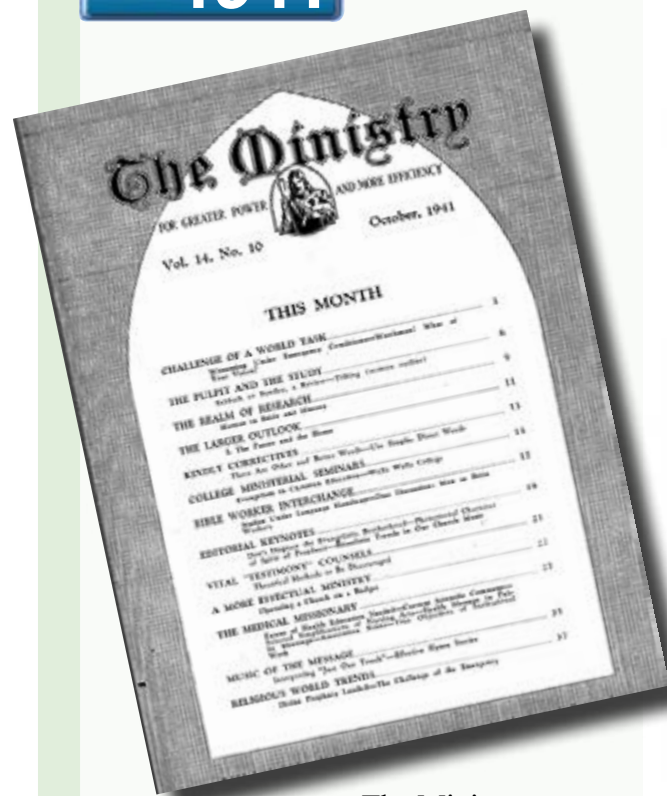
Estimate \$150-\$250

Jul 22, 2022

Sold for \$475



Another Example of the Lantern Slide Use in 1941



The Ministry

For Greater Power and More Efficiency

Vol. 14, No. 10, October, 1941

MIN19411001-V14-10_Page_38

NOTES AND NOTICES

Information and Sundry Items

As an inseparable corollary to the All-Out-for-Evangelism movement that is gathering increasing momentum, we need a central

EVANGELISTIC EQUIPMENT MUST NOW BE SUPPLIED

production and distribution arrangement to supply our growing army of evangelists with diversified and representative equipment needed in their work—evangelistic cuts for handbills and newspapers, billboard posters and window cards, auto-bumper ad strips, ti-pi rubber type mats and cuts, diversified prophetic charts, cut-out prophetic symbols, stereopticon slides, et cetera.

The hour has manifestly come for this advance move. The growing need must be met. The present feeble individual efforts should be pooled and strengthened. Anything less will fail to meet the need of tomorrow. The experimental stage is past. Sample equipment of this sort has already been developed, and is used and appreciated. But the scope is too limited, and the service uncertain. This should now be stabilized. And not only should standard equipment be available for immediate delivery, but these facilities should be available for special orders to meet individual needs, such as large items of equipment for city work.

When we ask our men to move forward in the battle for truth, we must supply them with

CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertisements appropriate to The Ministry, appearing under this heading, four cents a word for each insertion, including initials and address. Minimum charge, one dollar for each insertion. Cash required with order. Address, The Ministry, Takoma Park, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

CLERGY EMBLEMS FOR CARS

A CLERGY CAR EMBLEM INSTANTLY IDENTIFIES you as a Minister, affords many courtesies, helps in emergencies. Price, \$2. Quantities, twenty-five or more, \$1.50. American Clergy Bureau, 508 S. Glenn, Wichita, Kansas.

MINISTERIAL LIBRARIES WANTED

IF RETIRED MINISTERS' LIBRARIES ARE AVAILABLE for other workers to purchase, especially young ministers, please write particulars to Editorial Offices, THE MINISTRY, Takoma Park, D. C.

FOR SALE

STEREOPTICON, VICTOR, NO. 3, EXCELLENT condition, metal case, extra lens, extra bulb. 125 colored, standard slides. \$50. Thompson, 745 Exchange, Astoria, Oregon.

WORKERS' SUPPLIES

FILMSLIDE PROJECTORS. FILMSLIDES—DOCTRINAL, missions, health, temperance. Material for making 2 x 2 slides. Stereopticons. Motion-picture equipment. Screens. Cameras. Photographic supplies. Radios. Baptismal suits. Communion ware. Anatomical charts. Therapeutic lamps. All at workers' prices. Literature and information for those seriously interested in buying. S. D. A. Purchasing Bureau, General Conference Building, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

EVANGELISTIC POSTERS

ATTENTION! COMPELLING POSTERS, WINDOW cards in full color. Dignified Advertising pays for itself. Attractive designs. Better sizes. Stamp brings sample and details. Message Art & Screen Process, Box 4226, Takoma Park, D.C.

NEW AND USED BOOKS

USED BOOKS. We buy and sell new and used religious books and sets. Write for our free catalog. BAKER'S BOOKSTORE, 1019 Wealthy Street, S. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

SPECIAL SONGS

SING SONGS OF THE MESSAGE, composed by our own musicians. The seven "Special Songs of the Message" comprising Group No. 1 are being heartily received. Get your copies at once from your local Book and Bible House. Use them in the services of the church and its subsidiary organizations. Only 50 cents.

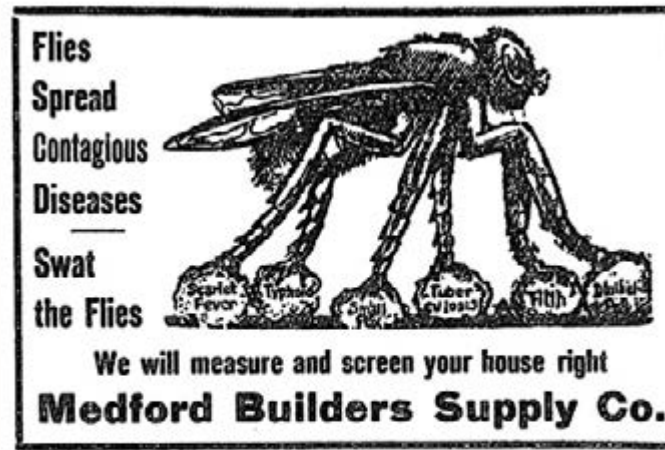
Lantern and Slide Use For Health Information

From Ron Easterday

Reprinted from MLG Vol 31, No 1, The Origins of Public Health Education on the Lantern Screen, Stephen Bottomore



Feature Article
The Origins of Public Health Education on the Lantern Screen
Stephen Bottomore 83 Bromham Road, Flat B Bedford, BEDFORDSHIRE MK40 2AH
United Kingdom sbottomore@gmail.com



Advertisement related to the fly pest campaign of 1910 (see note 22). Medford [Oregon] Mail Tribune, July 25, 1911. <http://truwe.sohs.org/files/flies.html>

In the sciences it is standard practice to formulate a hypothesis, which will then be tested to find out if it true or not. In history too, the formulation of hypotheses is a not unusual practice!

In August 2017 at the Utrecht “Million Pictures” conference, I presented a brief paper based on my hypothesis that the use of the lantern for public health education was a relatively late development in the history of the medium. I stated the following:

The magic lantern was employed for various purposes from the nineteenth century, including for education, travelogues, news reports, temperance and religious propaganda, advertising, and for the presentation of fictional narratives. In many cases considerable

documentation still exists about the circumstances of such projections, and some of the original lantern slides often survive.

But I find that for one of the potential applications of the magic lantern there seems to be a surprising scarcity of surviving material, and that is its use for public health education and propaganda. I have found only a few documented cases from the Victorian era of the employment of lantern projection to spread public health advice and information (e.g. advice on how to prevent and avoid infectious diseases), and I have seen no surviving slides from the nineteenth century on such themes—

though some do survive from the early twentieth century.

Some participants at the conference took issue with my hypothesis, and gave examples of the use of lantern slides for public health education in the 19 century. The case for Japan seems particularly strong, and we were shown lantern slides that were used in that country to educate the public on health issues from before 1900. In the weeks following the conference I did more research, especially in digitized sources, most notably in the “Hathi” and “Chronicling America” (Library of Congress) websites, and in the disc version of the Optical

The group has worked to help document lantern slide use here in the NW.

There is very exciting news from The Washington State Historical Society



Asahel Curtis Images Document Northwest History continued



Washington State Historical Society Bayless/Thorniley Collection, Catalog ID: 1943.42.51707LS.

Most people in Washington have probably seen an Asahel Curtis photograph, whether or not they recognized it as his work. One of the Pacific Northwest's most prolific photographers, Curtis captured tens of thousands of images of our state's natural resources, industries, early cities, historic events, and people. His expansive archive visually documents, in crisp detail, our shared history.

Washington State Historical Society has been entrusted with preserving Asahel Curtis' personal archive of approximately 60,000 negatives. Over 65 percent of those are delicate nitrate negatives and the remainder are glass plate negatives. To date, only 5,000 have



Image: Hand colored glass lantern slide of a sunset at Cape Flattery, Clallam County, Washington, by photographer Asahel Curtis, created in 1927.

been scanned, but advances in technology have made digitizing these fragile negatives more practical. We are excited to announce that the WSHS was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Pendleton and Elisabeth Carey Miller Charitable Foundation to partially fund a contract archivist to digitize more of the negatives.

The WSHS will continue to raise funds to create a freely-accessible online gallery of all 60,000 images in the Asahel Curtis Collection, and make that resource available to researchers and the public. We'll also feature an eventual exhibition of Curtis' important work. Curtis aficionados and history lovers can contribute to the project here.

Read more about this special collection in our press release. We encourage you to explore this photographer's images in our online collections, too!

https://www.washingtonhistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/MEDIA-RELEASE_60000-Asahel-Curtis-photos_July-18_2022.docx.pdf

continued next page

More About Asahel Curtis Photography

Unseen Asahel Curtis images to be made public



<https://crosscut.com/podcast/mossback/1/5/podcast-how-asahel-curtis-defined-pnw-through-photography>



Mossback and head of collections at the Washington State Historical Society Margaret Wetherbee examine a nitrate negative of an unseen photography by Asahel Curtis. (Camille Perezselsky)

A Curtis photo treasure hunt

We featured the work of the photographer Asahel Curtis in a Mossback's Northwest episode last January. We looked at his encyclopedic body of work that captured the Pacific Northwest from the 1890s to the 1940s. His work has come to define the region's sense of self. That episode helped surface some Curtis images that were in the private hands of readers and viewers, including one Curtis photograph taken at a residential school for First Nations children in British Columbia. Reader Kami Edwards sent the image to us, but she was able to ID it with the help of a Washington State Historical Society archivist, Eileen Price.

But now something more amazing than that single, timely image has surfaced. Many of the images we used in our story were from the Historical Society, which has digitized about 5,000 of Curtis' images. But it turns out, they are just the tip of the iceberg. Curtis died in 1941 and in 1943 his entire collection was purchased by the state, rather begrudgingly, I understand, for \$3,000, a tidy sum at the time. It was an extraordinary investment in history.

There are some 60,000 images in the WSHS Asahel Curtis collection, most on nitrate film or glass plates. They have been—and are—in controlled cold storage in the society's archives. Nitrate is highly flammable and glass plates susceptible to deterioration. No one has given them a close look since at least the 1980s, when they were boxed in archival sleeves and stored away. The vast majority have remained as negatives—not printed or digitized. In other words, there are some 55,000 Curtis images that are virtually unseen. The historical society's director, Jennifer Kilmer, says "The collection holds important links to today. With 55,000 unscanned images, there are undoubtedly going to be more discoveries of interest to the public and researchers."



Asahel Curtis in his studio. (Washington State Historical Society)



Three Porcelain Figurines

From John Townsend

john.t10wny@btinternet.com

Hi David

Can I please advertise the sale of three porcelain figurines in your next e-letter?

The first one is a young lady with a magic lantern on a stand and a toy windmill. La Fillete au Moulin. Price: \$750 o.n.o.



And the third is a Savoyard with a magic lantern on his back. Price: \$275 o.n.o.



The second is a young couple with the boy sitting on a magic lantern and holding the chimney. Price: \$350 o.n.o.



Or \$1,250 for all three. I can post at cost or as I will be attending the Convention in Cleveland in October, I can bring them with me.

Photos are attached.

All enquiries to John Townsend at john.t10wny@btinternet.com

Many thanks

Best wishes
John

THE CINEMA.

JANUARY 1, 1913.

LANTERN SLIDES FOR



MUSIC HALLS AND PICTUREDROMES.
ILLUSTRATED SONGS, RECITATIONS,
HYMNS, MOTTOS, ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND ARTISTIC ADVERTISEMENT SLIDES.

**BAMFORTH
& CO LTD**
The LARGEST SLIDE
PRODUCERS
IN THE WORLD.

HEAD OFFICE,
STUDIOS & WORKS,
HOLMFIRTH, YORKS.
TELEGRAMS & CABLES, "BAMFORTH," HOLMFIRTH.
A.B.C. CODE 57. EDITION. 'PHONE 4X

LONDON ADDRESS.
31 & 33, High Holborn.
'PHONE 4957 HOLBORN.

A Big Thank You to the following:
contributing to this months issue.

Ron Easterday
Brian Rogers
Joel Schlemowitz

**Now it's
your turn to
share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a
collection of images you would like to
share with the rest of the society?

E-mail Larry



We bring to You The Means to View

For projection of lantern slides in the school, lodge, church, family circle; no place too small or too large for the
SPENCER DELINEASCOPE

It's as far ahead of the old Stereopticon as the Automobile is of the wheelbarrow. Five models. Prices from \$25.00 to \$185.00.

Send for illustrated folder

SPENCER LENS COMPANY - Buffalo, N. Y.

SIMPLICITY DURABILITY EFFICIENCY

Welcome New Member

Professor Denver Mullican

Box 10798

New Orleans

LA 70181

USA

Ph: (504) 957-3926

E: denvermullican@me.com

Interested in all lantern-related material.

Might perhaps give shows at some point.